

# Congress of the United States

## Washington, DC 20515

February 8, 2022

The Honorable Jennifer Granholm  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Ave. SW  
Washington, DC 20585

The Honorable Shalanda Young  
Acting Director  
Office of Management and Budget  
1650 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Secretary Granholm and Acting Director Young:

We write to request that you prioritize updating and finalizing the appliance standards rules undermined by the previous administration. A renewed focus on this long-standing, proven, and effective policy is essential to achieving critical climate goals and helping families save on their energy bills.

Every day, American families rely on and operate hundreds of millions of different household appliances. They depend on the government to establish, update and enforce reasonable standards for these and other products that ensure that they are safe and efficient. However, the standards that help consumers save money and reduce carbon emissions have been undermined and ignored for years. Urgent action and attention to issuing updated appliance standards is needed to meet our larger climate goals and help families save energy and money.

We appreciate the administration's focus and commitment to addressing climate change in an unprecedented way. As outlined in President Biden's Executive Order 13990, updating appliance energy efficiency standards is a critical component of meeting our climate goals. According to a report issued by the Appliance Standards Awareness Project and American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, updated standards could reduce household utility bills by \$100 per year by the end of the decade and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to 3 gigatons by 2050.

This administration came into office with the difficult task of handling 28 standards that are overdue for updates and more deadlines quickly approaching. But we believe this as an opportunity to take significant steps in addressing this backlog. Unfortunately, we are concerned that the progress in undoing harmful rules issued under the previous administration has been slow and that it will make it even more difficult to make the necessary updates quickly. While Department of Energy staff have diligently advanced early-stage rulemaking steps for many new and updated standards, the scale of the rulemaking task ahead is challenging. We urge you to ensure that the staffing and processes are quickly put in place to produce timely reviews and prompt final rule completion.

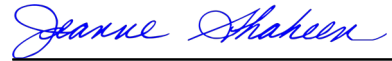
Thank you for your attention to this critically important issue. We look forward to continuing to work together to ensure appliance standards play a role in our fight against climate change and help families reduce their energy bills throughout the year.

Sincerely,



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Peter Welch  
Member of Congress



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Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senator



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Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress



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Tina Smith  
United States Senator



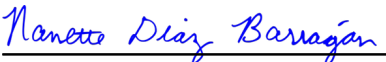
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Marie Newman  
Member of Congress



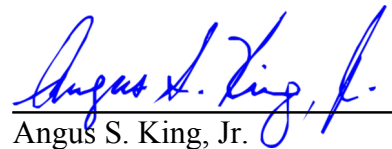
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Cory A. Booker  
United States Senator



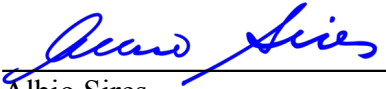
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Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress

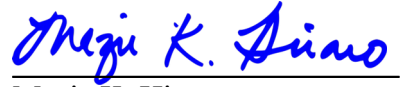


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Angus S. King, Jr.  
United States Senator



Albio Sires  
Member of Congress



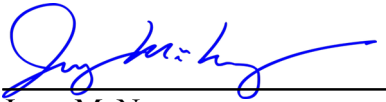
Mazie K. Hirono  
United States Senator



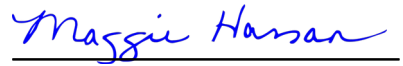
Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress



Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator



Jerry McNerney  
Member of Congress



Margaret Wood Hassan  
United States Senator



Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress



Sheldon Whitehouse  
United States Senator



Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress

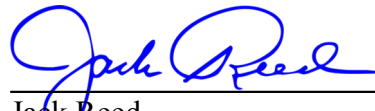


Benjamin L. Cardin  
United States Senator



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Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress



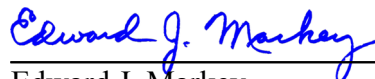
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Jack Reed  
United States Senator



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Lisa Blunt Rochester  
Member of Congress



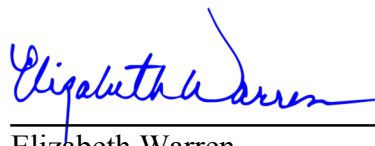
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Edward J. Markey  
United States Senator



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Michael F. Doyle  
Member of Congress



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Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senator



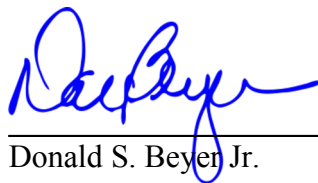
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Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress



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Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senator



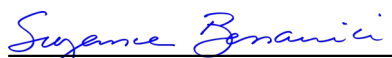
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Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress



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Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator



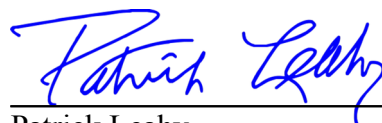
Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



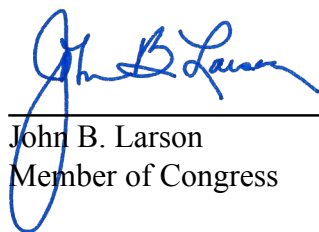
Bernard Sanders  
United States Senator



Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress



Patrick Leahy  
United States Senator



John B. Larson  
Member of Congress



Alex Padilla  
United States Senator



Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress



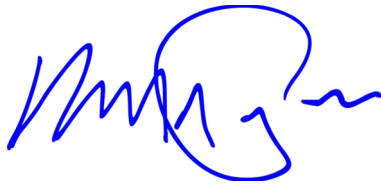
Michael F. Bennet  
United States Senator



Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress

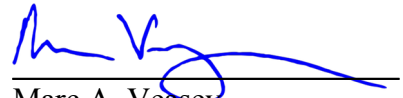


Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress



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Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress



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Marc A. Veasey  
Member of Congress



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Alan Lowenthal  
Member of Congress



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A. Donald McEachin  
Member of Congress



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Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



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Ed Case  
Member of Congress



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Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



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Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress



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Marcy Kaptur  
Member of Congress



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Sharice L. Davids  
Member of Congress



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Deborah K. Ross  
Member of Congress



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Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



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Kathy Castor  
Member of Congress